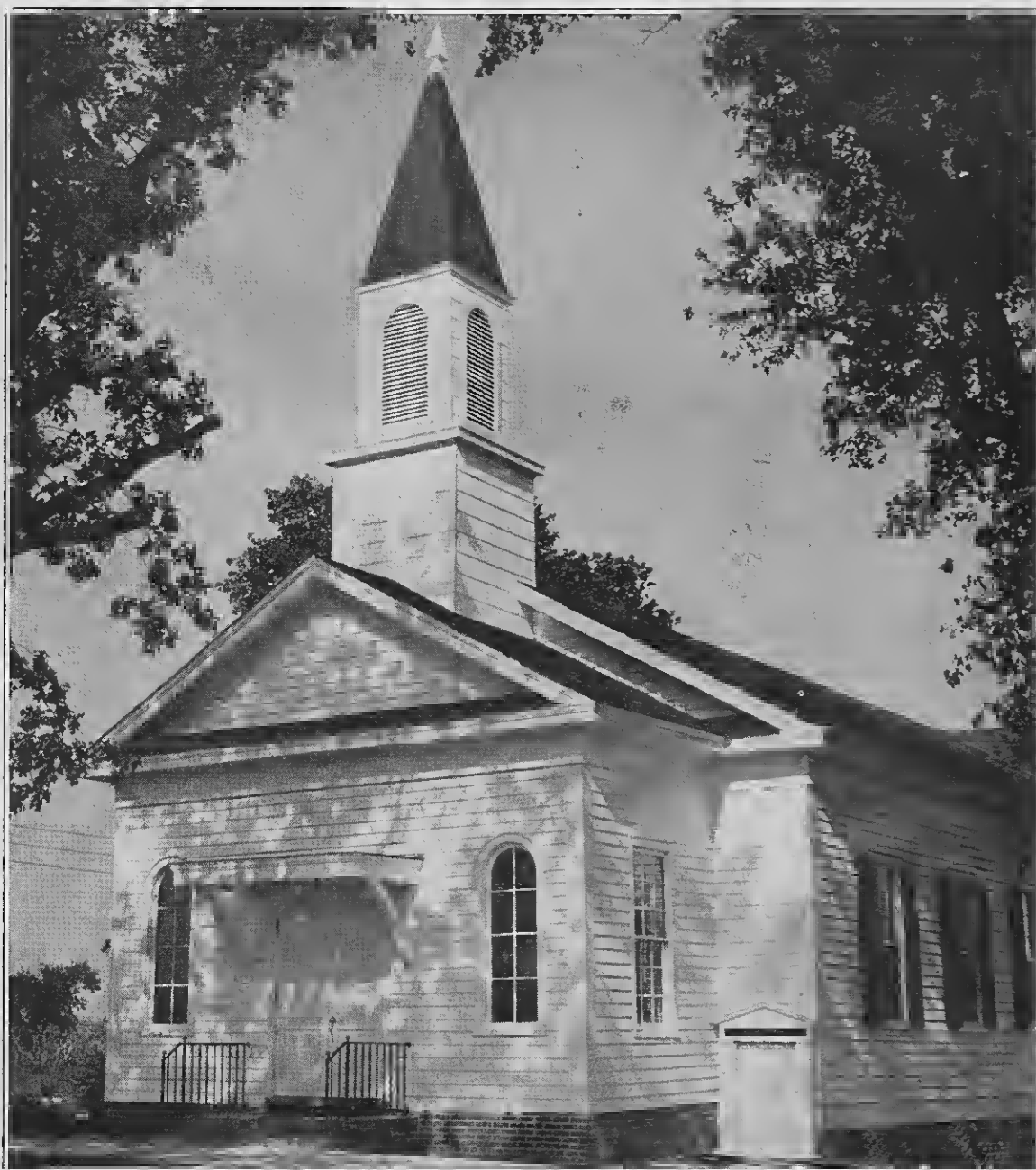


The SOUTHEAST NEWS

OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Volume 1 · Number 12

SEPTEMBER, 1953



1853 – 100 Years of Service – 1953

FREDONIA CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

BARNESVILLE, GEORGIA

Fredonia's Centennial

Sunday, Aug. 16, was a great day for the Red-bone Community, Barnesville, Ga. It marked the 100th Anniversary of the Fredonia Congregational Church and was highlighted by the Service of Dedication of the "new" building.

The inspiring anniversary sermon delivered by Dr. James A. Fraser was entitled "The Worth of Worship." Also, during the morning service, Miss Julia Bush, a life-long member of Fredonia, presented a "History of Fredonia in Original Verse."

Following the anniversary dinner held on the grounds, the Service of Dedication was conducted by the Rev. Erston M. Butterfield, Superintendent of the Southeast Convention. Others participating in the service were the Rev. Carl Parker, a former pastor of the church; W. Burton Moye, who brought words of welcome to the large gathering; Mrs. C. E. Horne, who told the story of the new building, "A Dream Comes True," and the Junior Choir which sang beautifully for both services.

Charter members of the church were: Mr. and Mrs. Jackson Bush, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Bankston, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Casten, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson Means, Mr. and Mrs. Glen Owen, Mr. and Mrs. Newton Owen, Mr. and Mrs. Wright Stocks, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Moye, and Rev. Absolom Ogletree.

In a paragraph printed on the program, Dr. Fraser wrote: "Little did the above realize what would result from such a small beginning. We are all too prone to underestimate the might of a resolute minority! We behold today an enlarged Fredonia. It is indeed "A Dream Come True." God bless the men and women of all churches with vision: and those of our own. We turn with a deep sense of gratitude to Misses Julia and Janie Bush for their determination and generosity. There are many others whose names I shall always remember for their sacrificial devotion."

We extend our hearty congratulations to the pastor and people of Fredonia and assure them that our prayers and best wishes are with them as they enter their second century of service.

O Timorous Church

O timorous Church of Christ! cease counting your gains and losses:
The Future, imperiled, is calling with the voice of a million crosses!
Calling for faithful prophets and seers to rise up and prophesy—
To kindle a fading vision afresh lest a visionless people die.
Our sins are many, our deeds are sore, O prophets, show us the roll—
Take up the scales of God once more and weigh the things of the soul.
Point not wholly to the patriarchs for the guidance we need today,
Scrolls of the ancients we cherish, but the prophets must lead the way.
Waits the importunate world for a word to quicken its heart again;
Then speak, O Church, and rekindle the faith in a world of despairing men.

—Marshall Wingfield - 1952

Christian Education Week

September 27 to October 4 is Christian Education Week. The purpose of this week is to help all children develop faith in God and to arouse each adult to his personal and group responsibility for children by example and vital Christian teaching in home, church, community, and world.

"For All Children Faith in God" is a handbook prepared especially for 1953 Christian Education Week. For 35c it may be had from our Pilgrim Press offices in Chicago or Boston.

Did you know that there are more children under 12 years of age in our country than ever before? And 53% more children under 5 years of age in 1950 than there were in 1940? Did you know there are about 1,000 divorces a day?

Christian education, involving all fathers, mothers, and children is one of the answers to a better home, church, community, state, nation and world.

How will your church observe Christian Education Week? Three suggestions are: Highlight the emphasis in leadership schools and meetings of church school teachers. Initiate a special cooperative effort on behalf of the Christian training of children. Encourage your church to increase efforts to reach and teach children. Discuss this with your Sunday or Church School leaders, your pastor and your fellow members.

The Last Mile--Uphill

A meeting of the Southeast Convention CBLF Committees has been scheduled for Sept. 14 in Atlanta, Ga., at the Convention office, by the chairman, the Rev. Lowell A. Smoot.

Mr. Smoot has announced that Dr. Nelson C. Dreier, Area III Director, will be in the area from October 26 through November 5 to help in a final drive to raise the Southeast Convention quota. The meeting will be for the purpose of discussing what has been done thus far and making plans for the future.

Nationally, \$233,615 has been unofficially reported as having been sent in through pledges and Declarations of Purpose on the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign goal of \$4,500,000.

In the Southeast Convention only about \$6,000 more in pledges is needed to reach the \$30,000 goal.

The first part of any campaign is always the easiest part, like going down hill. Now comes the hardest part, the going uphill to the last million, nationally. Florida, Montana and Puerto Rico have all gone over the top in securing their quotas. The Southeast Convention is very near to its goal.

How has your church, association or conference done? Why not check up today and give that extra little boost or urge that may be needed?

The money which has already been paid in is at work, but more is needed. The money is not given and forgotten; it is loaned and repaid and loaned again and thus is always active in the building program of the denomination.

Central Association Meeting

The Central Association meeting was an outstanding event. Every church of the Association was represented, and every session was well attended. The spirit, enthusiasm, and evident progress were most encouraging. Moderator M. O. Worley and the other officers of the association, as well as the ministers and churches, are to be congratulated.

It was a great pleasure to the Moderator to announce that each of the churches had sent in its Declaration of Purpose for the CBLF and had paid a portion of it.

The guest speakers, the Rev. John Pickens of LaGrange, Ga.; Dr. A. R. Van Cleave of Southern Union College, Wadley, Ala.; the Rev. Erston M. Butterfield of Atlanta, Ga.; Herman Cook of Lannett, Ala.; and Mrs. Clifton Fralic of Tallassee, Ala., gave inspiring messages which helped to make the association the success it was. With their friendly manner, they were soon just a part of the association.

The Every Member Canvass skit presented by the Stewardship Committee was a simple way to learn how to put on an Every Member Canvass. The characters were taken from the visitors and delegates of the association, but after one practice session they looked like real actors. The skit was written by members of the Convention Committee on Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education and directed by the Rev. Carolyn Welch of Thorsby, Ala.

The Moderator presided with an easy manner and kept everything moving according to schedule.

The Scribe, Mrs. Roy Culpepper, announced that a copy of the minutes would be sent to each church clerk at an early date.

Mrs. Roy Culpepper was elected as the second representative of the Association to the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention, and committee chairmen were appointed to represent the Central Association on the four Convention committees.

Churches represented were: East Tallassee Library, Balm of Gilead, Eclectic Union, Watson Chapel, Mt. Olive, Seman Community, Union, Mt. Creek, East View, and Thorsby.

—Jettie Logan

Council at St. Andrews.

More than 500 delegates were in residence and scores more from 16 national or area unions of the communion throughout the world attended the Seventh International Congregational Council held at the ancient University of St. Andrews, Scotland, in June. "Congregational Churchmanship" was the general theme of the ten-day meetings.

There were over 200 American delegates, eight of them being laymen, and twelve different countries were represented:

From the Southeast Convention, Miss Meriam Heermans of Pleasant Hill, Tenn., was the official delegate. The Rev. and Mrs. Peter Doherty of Columbus, Ga., also attended in an unofficial capacity. Their accounts of this meeting will be a feature of the October issue of the **Southeast News**.

The Deering Pastors' School

By Annie R. Campbell

The Rev. James Walker Davenport of Daisy, Tenn., and I attended the Pastors' School of the Congregational Christian Churches at Deering Community Center, Hillsboro, New Hampshire, July 1-22.

Dr. Truman B. Douglass, Executive Vice President of the Board of Home Missions, acted as Dean, with just the right amount of humor and seriousness to keep things going at a high level of interest and inspiration.

Forty-eight ministers attended, including a few pastors and a superintendent of Italian, Puerto Rican, Negro and Jamaican churches. Some brought their wives.

Among the members of the staff and special speakers were Prof. Paul S. Minear, Andover Newton Theological School, Newton Centre, Mass.; Dr. Bernhard A. Anderson, Colgate Rochester Divinity School, Rochester, New York; Dr. Roger L. Shinn, Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio; Dr. Eugene M. Bushong, the First Church of Christ, Longmeadow, Mass.; the Rev. Everett C. Parker, Broadcasting and Film Commission, National Council of Churches and Yale Divinity School, New Haven, Conn.; Dr. Thomas A. Tripp, Town and Country Department, the Board of Home Missions, N. Y.; Dr. Harry T. Stock, Division of Christian Education, the Board of Home Missions, Boston, Mass.; the Rev. Marvin P. Halverson, Director of the Dept. of Worship and Fine Arts of the National Council of Churches, N. Y.; Curtis R. Schumacher, Director of the Church Finance Advisory Service of the Board of Home Missions; and the Rev. J. Fraser McLuskey of Broughty Ferry, Scotland.

Most of the instructors had wife and children along and even the family pets. This added a homey atmosphere. Somehow we appreciated even more what the instructors had to say, seeing such wholesome Christian family relationships—the Douglasses together as a team, as Mrs. Douglass played most of the time for Matins conducted by her husband; eighteen month's old Mary Beth's merry eyes as she said, "Hi Daddy," across the table from Dr. Shinn; the Minear family—each playing some musical instrument; Rev. Parker rushing from an appointment with one of the ministers to an appointment to take his young daughters and son to the lake swimming. Many other instances could be mentioned. Dr. Paul S. Minear is on the planning committee for the program for the World Council of Churches and I think that we may well be proud of the fine Christian calibre of our representative.

While we had been warned ahead of time that this was a school for study and not a vacation, nevertheless we enjoyed picnic suppers by the lake twice a week and were permitted special trips to Boston to see our Congregational Christian headquarters and historic churches and seminaries, and to the White Mountains to see The Flume and the Old Man of the Mountain.

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office
at Atlanta, Georgia.

Published Monthly by and for the churches of the
**SOUTHEAST CONVENTION OF
CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES**

673 Piedmont Avenue, N.E.

Atlanta, Ga.

ATwood 2558

Single Subscription\$1.75 per year

Group Subscriptions\$1.50 per year

STAFF

Rev. Erston M. Butterfield, Supt. Editor

Rev. C. Carl Dollar Director, Extension Service

Mrs. Ed. A. Albright Registrar

Volume 1 - Number 12 SEPTEMBER, 1953



Our Thanks

Miss Loretta Petersen, who has served the Southeast Convention as Extension Worker in the field of Christian Education and Youth Work for the past two years, has resigned from the staff to return to her career as a nurse.

Loretta has served most faithfully and has won a real place in the life and work of our churches and the denomination. Her radiant smile, consecrated efforts and willing helpfulness will be sorely missed among our churches and at our association and conference meetings.

But, her winning ways and dedication to the task will be a great asset in her new adventure, too. On August 21, 1953, Loretta Petersen was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force Nurse Corps Reserve. She will be called into active service within the next 40 days.

We express to Loretta our sincere thanks for her very worthy efforts and notable accomplishments: for the thousands of miles traveled in her little Nash Rambler in service to the churches; for attending hundreds of meetings; and for being such a congenial member of the Convention Staff.

Keep us informed as to where you are, what you are doing and someday, Loretta, please come back to serve among us! God bless you always.

—The Churches and Staff
of the Southeast Convention

Does YOUR Subscription Expire In November?

The September issue of the SOUTHEAST NEWS begins its second year of life . . . a life made possible by the faithful efforts and cooperation of our subscription chairmen, reporters and you, the readers. We have carefully nursed it along, with the hope that it will come of age and to self-support. Were it not for the contribution of \$500 from the Board of Home Missions last year, and again for this coming year, it would have sickened and died from malnutrition (In the case of the magazine, that is lack of dollars instead of lack of vitamins.)

As you faithful early subscribers know, the first two issues were sent without charge, to acquaint you with the magazine, and so the first subscriptions began with the December 1952 issue. Those subscriptions will begin to expire with the November 1953 issue, and it will be necessary to renew them. You will be receiving a notice through the mail. We hope you will not wait for our urging but will want to renew your subscription immediately.

If you have any complaints, please write and tell us. If you know of any subscriber who has not been receiving a copy, please let us know.

We also appreciate suggestions as to how we can improve the magazine to make it more interesting to you.

The Staff

What Is Labor Day?

Born to work under conditions good for body and soul, and born to be brothers, our Labor Day is really a holy day dedicated to individual dignity and human brotherhood for human welfare. May God who made us as we are and Christ who showed us our dignity and brotherhood help us to dedicate Labor Day to man's dignity and man's brotherhood—a dignity and a brotherhood that come from our kinship with God, confirmed and heightened by Christ, our Lord.

S.O.S. to the Women . . .

An urgent note has been received from Miss Margaret Hargrove stating that in spite of the larger than usual number of program booklets for 1953-54, "Rejoicing in Our Task" printed, the supply has been exhausted and new orders continue to come in. She asks that we get word to all our groups and leaders that if they have extra copies which they can afford to do without, it will be greatly appreciated if they can be returned to Miss Hargrove. It is encouraging to know that these materials are being so widely used.

— SUPERINTENDENT'S PAGE —

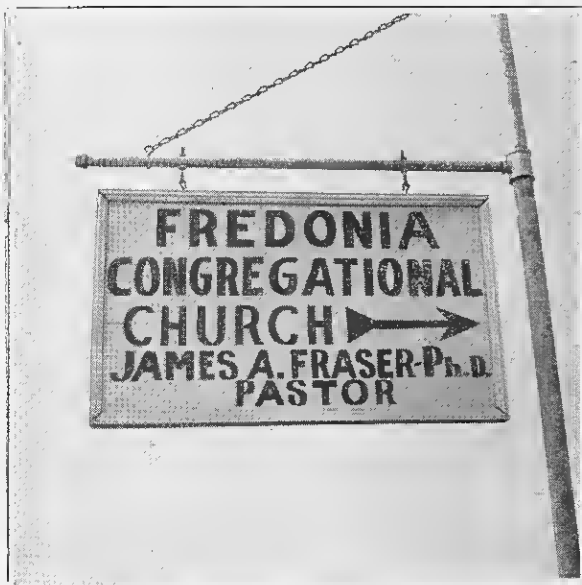
Where Is the Congregational Christian Church

Have you ever gone looking in a strange community for the Congregational Christian Church? How many people did you have to ask before you found one who could give you proper directions?

I've had to ask a lot of questions and have found it mighty hard to get the right answers. Too often I get a blank stare and a repeated question, "Congregational Church?", or have been misdirected to Baptist, Methodist or Presbyterian houses of worship.

Which all leads up to the plea for more and better church signs and bulletin boards. A good sign not only gives guidance to the stranger, but lets other people of the community know you exist and are proud to be a Congregational Christian Church.

If your church is off the main highway, why not see that a neat, readable sign points the way. The picture of Fredonia's sign is a good example. It is mounted on pipe at car-top level and is easily seen from cars approaching from either direction. Then don't forget to put a similar sign at every turn on the way to the church. It won't be expensive and will be worth much from an advertising point of view. Now how about a sign on or in front of the church? Some churches have large expensive lighted bulletin boards which are a wonder if you can afford them. An example of a cheaper yet effective sign is the one in front of Pilgrim Chapel in Nashville. It is bolted to a pipe frame at an angle to the road so as to be easily seen from any direction. The large white letters stand out on the black background and tell the whole story. It announces to all passers-by that here is a Congregational Christian Church which meets for church school at 10:00 A.M. and Morning Worship at 11 A.M. It names the minister and gives an inviting "welcome." What more could one want to know?



No, it doesn't have to be an ultra-modern, expensive one, but let's have every church with a sign to guide the stranger and let the community know we're around. If you don't already have one, why not put one up by next week and send me a picture of it with the next news item about the activities of your church?

While we are on this matter of publicizing the church, let's not overlook the newspapers. Most papers publish church news and announcements. If the preacher or some member of the congregation will assume the responsibility, a brief announcement can appear every week. Usually this is no more than the name of the church and minister, the time of the services and the sermon topic, but even that is a help in becoming known as an active church in the community.

When you have special services and celebrations with outstanding guests, that's news. Any paper will be glad to print interestingly written news stories that give the "what, when, where and who" of the event. They might even send a reporter to write the copy and a photographer to cover the story. But they must know about what's going on. Call your local editor when a big event is coming up and ask him how to get full news coverage. He will tell you if he has a reporter to send out, or if he wants you to send him the story already written out. Of course this implies that every big event you have will be well-planned long in advance so that it will be an occasion that is news-worthy and that the paper will be eager to print.

Let's get the name "Congregational Christian" into the news and before the public until everyone who reads will know how to spell and pronounce our name and will begin to understand who we are and for what we stand. Then, when we ask "Where is the Congregational Christian Church?" we'll get the right answer the first time we ask!

—Erston M. Butterfield

STUDENT SUMMER



SENIOR HIGH CLASS SESSION AT WADLEY

The Student Summer Service program is sponsored by the Town and Country Department of the Board of Home Missions, and is under the direction of the Superintendent of the local Conference or Convention. Seminary and college students who are interested in Christian education work during the summer as leaders and instructors in camps for young people and conduct Vacation Bible Schools in the local churches.

This summer the Southeast Convention employed six student summer service workers: Richard Rider (Southern Union College), Charlotte Vieth (Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio), Jimmy Teague (Tennessee Polytechnic Institute), Lois Eberhardt (Elmhurst College) of Maywood, Ill., Joan Hull (University of Alabama), and the Rev. Raymond Berry (Hartford Seminary). They provided leadership in the Kentucky-Tennessee Family Camp, the Junior and Senior Camps at Wadley, Ala., Sealacon Camp in Ala., and the Waycross Family Camp, Ga. Seventeen Vacation Bible Schools were conducted by them. Richard Rider conducted a religious census in Nashville, Tenn., and Raymond Berry supplied the pulpit in Circular Church, Charleston, for two months.

The Student Summer Service program not only provides the Southeast Convention with an oppor-

tunity to obtain trained leadership, but also gives the young people and adult camp leaders an opportunity to work with people from other areas, and the students themselves get to know the south from living and working in the area.

The Juniors spatter-painted a worship cloth for their Sunday School room. They also made place mats which had a verse in the center to be



Richard Rider, Joan Hull, the Rev. Annie R. Campbell, Lois Eberhardt and Charlotte Vieth at Pomona, Tenn., for the orientation and training session conducted by Miss Campbell in June.

used for saying grace. The children seemed to enjoy working on their activities because it was something they had never done before.

"The children liked having many of the responsibilities which made their school successful and more meaningful to them. For instance, the junior group planned the worship services and each one had a chance to take part in it."

Miss Divina Del Carmen, of the Philippine Islands, was the missionary speaker and teacher for the Junior and Senior Summer Conferences at Wadley. Her charm and humor endeared her to the young people, and her stories of life on the islands enthralled them.



OFF TO BALD ROCK FOR PICNIC --
JUNIOR HIGH



Learning to make things at the Vacation Church School for the Negro children of Wadley, Ala., sponsored by Southern Union College, the Wadley Kiwanis Club and Student Summer Service.

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Miss Del Carmen also spoke at the annual retreat of the Alabama Women's Fellowship, and at several churches in Alabama and Northwest Florida while she was here.

Vacation Church Schools

Of course each school was different, according to the teachers and the children and the program planned by the local church in consultation with the student summer service worker. However, in general the programs were the same and from the narrative reports of the student summer service teachers and snapshots made by them a glimpse into a typical day of a church is possible.



MISS DIVINA DEL CARMEN



PLAYTIME FOR PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

"After the story hour the younger children drew pictures about the story and learned a simple verse connected with the story." The Junior group, after their Bible story, drew maps such as Moses' journey from Egypt to Canaan. They also discussed the stories and how they fit in with life today."

During activity time the pre-school and the primary children made puppets out of paper bags and dressed them in the garb of the Biblical people. They also made animals out of paper.



STORY HOUR



PICNIC

Committee on Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education

By Joe A. French, Chairman

The Convention Committee on Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education has been seeking to prepare an acceptable and helpful program for the Convention and has to date arranged for two of our national staff members to visit the area and conduct institutes.

Dr. Wofford C. Timmons, Director of the Commission on Evangelism and Devotional Life, will be with us Oct. 9-18. Tentative plans are for Dr. Timmons to conduct a Workshop on Evangelism either at Soddy or Daisy, Tenn., on Oct. 9 for the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. On Oct. 10 he will go to Tifton, Ga., where he will conduct a program of Visitation Evangelism for the week in the Tifton church.

After completing the Evangelistic campaign at Tifton on Friday night, Dr. Timmons will go to LaGrange, Ga., where he will direct another Workshop on Evangelism for the Georgia Conference on Sunday afternoon and night of Oct. 18.

Dr. Timmons will participate in the program of the East Alabama Association at Lanett on Oct. 14, taking this one day off from the work in Tifton.

A second national staff official to visit our Convention will be Miss Ione Catton, Program Secretary in Missionary Education. Miss Catton will be here Feb. 1-14, 1954.

Mission Institutes with an afternoon and night session have been planned for the following churches: Corbin, Ky.; Chattanooga, Tenn.; Barnesville and Vanceville, Ga.; Antioch, Andalusia; Mt. Olive, Tallassee; Lowell, Roanoke; Pilgrim, Birmingham; and one church in the North Alabama Association to be selected.

Specific dates and times for these institutes will be announced later. In the meantime, while the plans are developing, any suggestions or requests on the program should be addressed to the chairman of the committee, the Rev. Joe A. French, Lanett, Ala.

Plans for securing a national official to share with us on **Stewardship** are in process and are expected to be completed in early spring 1954.

The committee chairman is providing literature on these topics to be on display (and free to the delegates) at the fall association and conference sessions. It is the hope of the committee that this literature may be read by both ministers and laymen and that it will stimulate interest and effort on the part of local churches in these subjects on the Christian Gospel which are so essential to an effective church program.

The Southeast Convention now has what is believed to be an effective organization for promoting an educational and fruitful program in all fields of church work. It is the earnest desire and prayer of the officials that they will receive the whole-hearted and ready cooperation of association and conference officials and of the local churches so that the Convention will really be in process of building the Kingdom of our Lord.



Stewardship Skit

The Committee on Evangelism, Stewardship, and Missionary Education is presenting a skit on the Every Member Canvass at each of the Association and Conference meetings this fall. It has received high praise by audiences in Central and North Alabama, the first associations to see it.

The Rev. Carolyn Welch (Thorsby) wrote the skit and will attend all meetings as director. In four scenes the skit tells of one church that tried the E.M.C. and found it to be exactly what they needed to develop a sound, Christian, financial system.

Pictured above are members of the North Alabama Association who volunteered to become actors and actresses for a one day stand at the Friendship Church, Caddo, Ala. Don't miss this attraction when it comes to your Association or Conference!

Southern Union College

President Flannery announces the appointment of several new staff members for the school year beginning September 21. Mr. and Mrs. Herman Patterson of Evarts, Ky., will be a great addition to their duties on the campus. Herman will be in charge of the Business Administration department and Maxine will teach English and French. They were very active in our Community Congregational Church in Evarts. Mr. and Mrs. Simon Nath, of Campton, New Hampshire, are also Congregationalists. Mr. Nath is a graduate of M.I.T. He will teach chemistry and biology. Mrs. Nath will assist with the Thrift Shop.

The Rev. and Mrs. Carl J. Landes, Deer Creek, Okla., will move into the log cabin on the campus the first of September. Mr. Landes will teach history and be in charge of maintenance. Mrs. Alberta Phillips, Crystal Springs, Miss., will be the new dietitian. Mrs. A. R. Van Cleave will be in charge of the Thrift Shop in Wadley.

Returning to the campus will be Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Bennett, David Eddy, and Miss Vera Van Cleave. Dean Van Cleave has been on the campus all summer.

CHURCH NEWS

The summer months have been busy ones for the members of the **United Church of LaGrange, Ga.**, beginning with Vacation Bible School (which had an enrollment of 108 and an average attendance of 88.

Our young people continue to have splendid programs and are meeting with the young people of other churches. They entertained the Oak Grove P.F. one Sunday evening, and in turn went to Oak Grove to be their guests. On the evening of August 16, the LaGrange P.F. entertained the Lanett, Ala. P.F.

Church members are busy making ready for the installation of a new heating system for the church, to be ready for use this winter. The new natural gas heating system has already been in use in the parsonage last winter, and this same system is being installed in the church at a cost of \$1600—half of which is paid by the Calloway Mills Company and more than \$600 has already been raised and pledged by the members and various church organizations.

The summer youth camps have claimed the attendance of our young people. Vernon Wright and Sherrill Penn attended the Jr. Hi Camp and Misses Shirley Wright, Claudette Brumbeloe, Beverly Newberry and Jane Ann Ayers attended the Sr. Hi Camp at Southern Union College in Wadley, Ala., along with our pastor, the Rev. John E. Pickens, Jr. Mr. Pickens also attended the Sealacon Camp at Headland, Ala., as director of the camp.

The entire Pickens family attended the Waycross Camp, where Mr. Pickens served as Chaplain.

Our fall revival begins Sept. 23rd with preaching by the Rev. John E. Pickens, Sr., father of our pastor and assistant to the Superintendent of the Florida Conference for many years.

—Mrs. John Laubenthal

The Rev. John Carwelle has been supplying the pulpit of the **Alexander City, Hunt Memorial Church** since the illness of the former pastor, the Rev. M. L. Thrasher, caused him to resign.

Word received August 7th was that Mr. Thrasher was much improved and was now residing at the home of his daughter in Hanceville, Ala. Mr. Thrasher has requested that everyone pray for him that he may be restored to health.

—Mrs. James Cumbee

Dr. Paul R. Reynolds has accepted the call from the **Pleasant Hill Community Church, Tenn.**, to be its pastor. He will also be the Director of the Pleasant Hill Community Center. Dr. Reynolds will move to the field on March 1, 1954. He is at the present time Secretary of Family Life and Young Adult Work of the Division of Christian Education with headquarters in Chicago, Ill. The Pleasant Hill Church and community feel that they are extremely fortunate to secure the services of Dr. Reynolds, and the church life of our whole area will benefit by his coming.

The parsonage of the **Crossville, First Church** was the scene of a special meeting of the Ladies

Guild of the church on Aug. 6, complimenting the Rev. and Mrs. Harold Freer of Cleveland, Ohio, who were guests of the church parlor, the Rev. A. Nightingale. *pastor*

Members of The Art Circle were special guests along with several other ladies.

The program was given by the Rev. Freer, who reviewed the book, "The Fair Bride," by Bruce Marshall. Following a brief question and answer period, a social hour was enjoyed, during which a salad-dessert course with iced beverage was served by Mr. Nightingale, assisted by members of the Guild.

The Rev. Freer spoke on the subject, "What Is Your Name?" for the morning message on Sunday, Aug. 9. Special music was a solo, "O Lord, Most High," by Mrs. Thomas Conway, with Mrs. Joseph W. Parker accompanying.

Sunday night after an informal meal of sandwiches, cake and iced beverage, quite a large group enjoyed the colored picture slides of Rev. Freer. Part of the pictures were made in 1950, when he was one of 50 men and women, speakers and writers, selected from 27 states to be a member of the Sherwood Eddy American Seminar. They visited Great Britain, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, and France; other pictures were made in 1951 while he was exchange minister at the Congregational Church in Gillingham, Kent, England.

During the summer months the **Oak Grove Church, Chipley, Ga.**, is holding Vesper Services each Sunday evening in the church yard.

Renovations include painting the outside of the church, with the paint donated and the labor done by the men of the community, and the installation of two bathrooms in the church. Money for the latter project was raised by a barbecue in July.

A Vacation Bible School was held in July, with Miss Jimmie Teague, S.S.S. worker, as the instructor. About 30 children attended.

Home-coming at Oak Grove was held July 19, and Superintendent Butterfield was the speaker for the morning service. The Rev. S. M. Penn conducted the preaching mission in July. Seven new members came into the church—five on confession and two by re-instatement.

On August 2 the Junior High Sunday School class had clean-up day at the church. This included mowing the yard, weeding, watering plants and painting the steps. The Adult Class sponsored a Sunday School social at the Community House on Aug. 7. The Junior Class brought a picnic lunch and had fun time after church on Aug. 9.

The Senior P.F. visited the LaGrange young people and the LaGrange group returned the visit in July. Oak Grove young people visited the Lanett P.F. in August, and also had a beach party at the Ida Cason Beach near Chipley.

Representing the Senior and Junior P.F., Joan and John Shepherd and Shirley Jean Bass and Ray Thompson accompanied the pastor, Dr. D. W.

Shepherd, and Mrs. Shepherd to the Waycross Camp in August.

—Margie McGuire

The **Good Hope Church** of Baker, Fla., has a very busy week from July 25 through 31, and it was also a very interesting and encouraging week for both children and adults.

We were fortunate to have with us the Rev. Clyde Flannery, President of Southern Union College, who conducted our revival meeting. Miss Del Carmen, from the Philippines, gave a very interesting talk on the beginning of Christianity in her native village preceding the evening sermon by the Rev. Flannery. She was a very charming speaker.

This same week Miss Jimmie Teague, of Soddy, Tenn., conducted a Daily Vacation Bible School which the children of the community enjoyed very much. Following the close of the Bible School each morning, the Rev. Flannery gave a sermon. The evening services began with the showing of slide films and a talk on each by the Rev. Flannery, after which he gave a brief sermonette to the children. The regular evening service followed.

During the week 7 new members were received into the church—4 by letter and 3 on confession.

On August 2 our pastor, the Rev. N. A. Long, had the pleasure of Christening two of his grandchildren who were visiting him at our regular Worship Service. Dinner was served at the church and followed by an afternoon of singing. The final event of the day was the Baptismal Ceremony.

The **East Tallassee Church** is continuing its services despite the lack of a pastor. A variety of ministers and laymen have filled the pulpit, including the Rev. A. D. Ballard, the Rev. Clyde Flannery, the Rev. M. O. Worley and laymen Howard Morris, Winfred Walters, James Dollar, Arthur Dailey, Christine Durden and J. M. Robertson.

The Women's Fellowship held its regular monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. Morrell Rhodes on August 10. Mrs. Rhodes was in charge of the worship program which included installation of the new officers as follows: President, Mrs. Merle Baker; Vice president, Mrs. Lorelei Ballard; Secretary, Mrs. Irene Scroggins; Treasurer, Miss Willa Durden; Friendly Service Chairman, Mrs. Melva Schnell.

The outgoing officers were told that their record had been "read" and were given a red carnation each. The new officers were handed a "clean sheet" and given a white carnation. The subject of the program was "What We Believe." Delicious refreshments were served to the 20 members present.

On July 29 the young people from the Langdale Church came over to the East Tallassee Church for an afternoon of fun. They went to Lake Martin for a swim and upon their return to the church were served a picnic supper by the women's fellowship. The Langdale group was chaperoned by the Rev. Goff Bedford and Mrs. Bedford.

After the supper three games of Volley Ball were played—the first with the Langdale and Tal-

lassee young people competing, the second the boys only of the two churches and the third with the girls only. Tallassee won all three games.

The young people were making full use of the new lights on the playground recently put up by their group.

—Mrs. Floyd Ballard

The parsonage for the **Tallassee, Mt. Olive Church**, a three bedroom and bath one-floor plan, in a beautiful grove of trees next door to the church, is fast nearing completion. The Rev. M. O. Worley is pastor of the church.

The **Tifton Congregational Christian Church** has called the Rev. Ralph Worley as pastor, to begin his services Oct. 1. It is hoped that with the coming of Dr. W. C. Timmons to conduct the preaching mission and program of visitation evangelism, the Tifton Church will be well on its way.

The **Eclectic Union Church** held its revival meeting July 26 through Aug. 1, with good attendance and response. Four new members were received into the church—three by letter and one by Profession of Faith.

Beginning in August, the church will go on half-time service, with services the second and fourth Sundays instead of only once a month. Each Saturday night prayer meetings of real spiritual significance are held, and attendance has grown considerably.

—Otto Culpepper, pastor

The Men's Club of the **Atlanta Center Church**, organized in the early spring, is growing in membership and enthusiasm. At the August meeting the Rev. Edward A. Driscoll, Director of the Georgia Council of Churches, was the guest speaker, with 18 members present. Richard Drake, Moderator of the Georgia Conference, was also present.

A new gas furnace has recently been purchased, and through a series of circumstances the \$750 furnace was obtained for only \$200. The new super-highway being constructed in Atlanta resulted in the dismantling of a Georgia Tech fraternity house, and their furnace, used only two years, was for sale. An alumnus of the fraternity purchased the furnace for \$250 for his country place, and then found that natural gas was not available. A deal was made between the owner and the church at \$200 cash and the old oil-burning floor furnaces of the church. Now everyone is happy.

—Henry C. Weaver, pastor

The Rev. Donald J. Ross, of Dayton, Ohio, has accepted a call to serve the Elder, Cragford Mt. Carmel and Wadley Beulah churches in Alabama. Mr. and Mrs. Ross will reside in Wadley, where they moved the latter part of August.

We welcome them to service in the Southeast Convention.

**No Man is Really Doing His
Work Who is Not Doing
It With Enthusiasm**

A CALL TO WORSHIP

By Henry C. Weaver

The church is the storehouse of spiritual values. It is the fellowship of God's children; a fellowship of sinners called to be saints and trying to answer that call; a fellowship of people seeking divine help and finding in the worship of Almighty God, along with others of kindred minds, strength and hope for daily needs. The church needs you but you need the church more. The church will live on for the forces of evil cannot destroy it—"the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"—but how about you? You need the stimulus of worship, the guidance of the spirit and the mutual helpfulness of Christian fellowship if you are to meet the problems of today and live at your best.

Psychologists hold that most mental ills come directly from the loss of a religious outlook on life and that there is, and can be, no complete cure unless such an outlook is regained. Much of the unhappiness in the world today is caused by the neglect of regular worship and a growing indifference toward religion. Many of the frustrations in the lives of people everywhere are caused by their failure to give God His rightful place in their hearts.

Man today worships science, progress, and material things, and fails in the worship of the infinite. So great is the impact of the new discoveries of science that our minds are literally overwhelmed in their contemplation. However, man is more than an intellectual machine and a physical organism. He is first of all a living soul, and with the Psalmist David exclaims, "My heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God." From the crude idol worship of the heathen to the spiritual worship of the Christian, man reveals a capacity and a necessity to worship a higher being. God has made us after Himself and in His likeness.

Jesus tells us that God is a spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth. Public worship enables a group of people, under the leadership of the minister, to lift their common voice to the Almighty God in praise and adoration. When the worship service is conducted in a reverent manner, an experience is provided which has no parallel on earth. It lifts one into communion with the eternal God; and worship, like prayer, becomes the Christian's vital breath, the Christian's native air. Just as we need food to sustain life in our physical bodies, so our souls need the spiritual food which worship provides. Man shall not live by bread alone. He is not just a hungry animal who is contented when well fed. He is a person—a person for whom Christ died.

There are people who never worship God but who call themselves Christian. There are people who never consider God in normal circumstances, but who will call upon Him in emergencies; sickness, disaster, death, and loss. Every great disaster brings stories of people kneeling and imploring God's help in order to bring them to safety. That

is not to be condemned, but one naturally wonders how many of them are people who are regular in their worship of God.

True Christian worship is not something that is fully achieved in a moment. It is a life-time process. The life of prayer is no easy or quick accomplishment. It is something on which we must work constantly and there is no better way than through regular private devotions at home with the family and through regular attendance at your church.

If you are to find the peace of God that passeth all understanding—the contentment that meets the soul's deepest needs, is it not logical to look to the church, to the Bible—the word of God, and to the Christian leaders who are anxious to minister to you in the Master's Name? The Church is the one institution that seeks to minister to the spiritual life of man. Other good organizations are concerned with his education, with his social life, and if he is in needy circumstances, with his material welfare. And there are many sub-agencies carrying on much fine work but the Christian church must continue to be the one organization charged with the responsibility of seeking to save lost men and women and bring them into right relationship with Jesus Christ. Without a strong church neither democracy nor civilization can survive.

John says, "Truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son, Jesus Christ, and with one another." Jesus came that we might have life and that we might have it more abundantly; but we cannot have it without seeking it—without doing our part, without asking God for this new life. To find it we need the fellowship of regular worship in the church of our choice. It is there we see ourselves as we are with all our faults and failures. There we come face to face with God and if we can do that with sin in our lives and not feel compelled to make it right, we are on dangerous ground. Carlyle said, "the deadliest sin were the consciousness of no sin." Yet man is ever trying to quench that consciousness, to persuade himself that he is not sinner. One cannot conceal his sins from God at any time.

And what shall we do about our sin? Listen: "If we confess our sin, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sin and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." He is become our salvation. In Him we live and move and have our being. There is no trouble that is incurable, no sorrow that cannot be comforted, and no sin that is beyond forgiveness. He is our peace. We invite you to come into this fellowship—a fellowship of love, for God is love. Come to receive a richer, fuller life. Come into a life of unselfish service. Live for Him, and you will find new meaning and a greater happiness than you have ever known before.

673 Piedmont Avenue, N. E.
Atlanta, Georgia



North Alabama Association

North Alabama Association held its regular fall meeting at Friendship Church, Caddo, Ala., Saturday and Sunday, August 22-23. A good delegation was on hand to participate in the business sessions and benefit from the well-planned program, including addresses by the Rev. Annie Campbell, Dr. Clarence Bennett and the Rev. E. M. Butterfield. Everyone greatly enjoyed the Stewardship Skit and the showing of "An Adventure in Fellowship" and "The Hidden Heart."

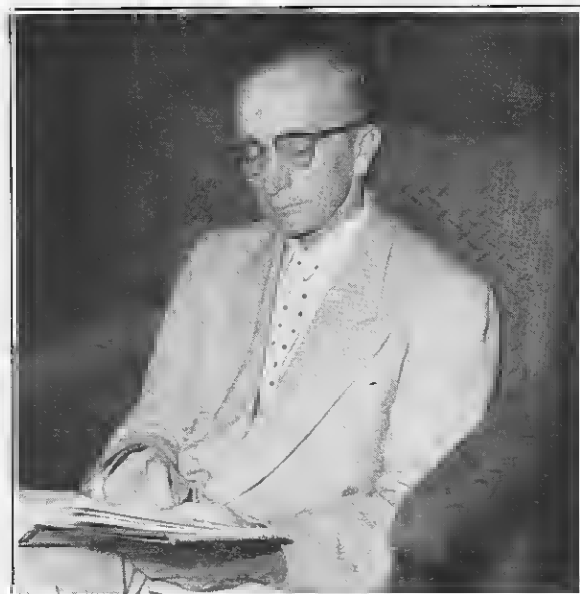
During the business sessions the following officers were elected (see picture above, left to right) Dr. Guy L. Colbert, retiring Moderator; Lee Allred, Chairman of the Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education Committee; the Rev. Robert Shelton, Moderator; Mrs. Grace Fleming, Registrar; the Rev. Marvin Richard Waugh, Member of the Convention Board of Directors; the Rev. Ernest Shelton, Chairman of the Survey and Church Aid Committee; the Rev. Vell M. Bayne, Chairman of the Committee on Ministry and Churches; and the Rev. Annie Campbell, Chairman of the Christian Education and Youth Work Committee.

The Pilgrim Fellowship of the Association elected Miss Gwendolyn Clark as President, Rod Washburn as Vice President, and Miss Anita Bond as Secretary-Treasurer.

The meals were excellent, the fellowship was of the best, and Friendship Church was a wonderful host. Great days are ahead for the churches of North Alabama.



Life is a grindstone, and whether it grinds a man down or polishes him up depends on the stuff he's made of.



"The Little Minister"

Pictured above is the Reverend Talmage Hartman, minister of Pilgrim Chapel in Nashville, Tenn. Mr. Hartman has been called to lead the Nashville congregation as they look forward to moving to the growing edge of the city and the building of a new church.

In the hope of informing more people about the presence of a Congregational Christian Church and wishing to extend its influence throughout the city, the church will sponsor a fifteen minute radio program entitled "The Little Minister." Mr. Hartman will make a modern presentation of basic Christianity, answer listener's questions, and utilize devotional prose and religious poetry. Station WLAC will carry the program every Saturday morning Sept. 12 from 8:15 until 8:30 C.S.T. It should be "good listening."

Convention Activities Calendar

- Sept. 10—Atlanta Seminary Foundation Meeting in Nashville, Tenn.
- Sept. 14—CBLF Committees meet in Atlanta.
- Sept. 27—Christian Education Week.
- Oct. 4—World-wide Communion Sunday.
- Oct. 14-15—East Ala. Asso. at Lanett, Ala.
- Oct. 18—Laymen's Sunday.
- Oct. 21-22—Georgia Conference at Columbus, Ga.
- Oct. 24-25—Ky.-Tenn. Conference at Stearns, Ky.
- Oct. 25—World Order Sunday for United Nations.
- Oct. 27-28—Alabama Conference at Andalusia, Ala. Antioch Church.